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Question Time: Dinner for four

Pick any three dining companions, living or dead.

By Rob Burgess
Tribune night editor

Editor's note: To participate in future such hypothetical questions, keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook accounts.]

We received several dozen very interesting responses Friday when we asked our readers to answer the following question: "If you could have dinner with any three people living or otherwise who would it be and why?" As a result, a few us here at the Kokomo Tribune decided to give it a try as well. Here's a selection of each:

Your answers

• "I would choose my Mom three times." - Rob Dly

• "My brother because I never got to say goodbye when he passed away, my son-in-law because he is serving in Afghanistan currently and I am so very proud of him, and my husband because next to God he is my rock and my foundation!" - Marilee King

• “Myself as a little girl, myself beginning motherhood, and myself when I’m old. ‘Cause we could sure use the advice! (And we’re awesome.)” - Brooke-Allison Hines

• “Rasputin, Salvador Dali, and Jimmy Durante. Because history is silly and surreal and terrible.” - Larry Evans

• “I would break bread with Jesus, do a cookout with Abraham Lincoln and have a great dinner with my mentor, Lyle Petska, who was a master cook and taught me how to be a real man. Yeah, that about covers it!” - Dayle Beebee

• “I would say the people I lost in my life, but then I thought ... it would be so hard to only spend one evening with them to only have to say goodbye all over again.” - Karen S. Daggett

• “Jesus Christ, Frank Zappa, and George Carlin. Alternate guest: Albert Einstein. Reasons: Do you even have to ask??!” - Eric Kretzmer

• “My Mom, who passed away when I was 9, my sister who passed away last year, she was my best friend, and my other sister who is still living ... That would be a WONDERFUL dinner!” - Melissa Sterner

Our answers

• “Samuel Johnson, Jesus Christ and William Shakespeare.” - Scott Smith

• “1. My 87-year-old brother, Bob. He lives in California. I have only seen him four times in my lifetime. He is the oldest, I am the baby of the family I would like to spend time over dinner learning what it was like to grow up in his era, all about World War II and what it was like to be on the front line, along with what it was like to be the oldest brother of five growing up together, since I was not around at the time. 2. My deceased parents. I would like to tell them how my life is today, how they made such an impact on my life, sorry for not telling them I loved them more often, and the many thanks I did not say for being such great parents. 3. The Beatles. They came to the U.S. when I was in high school. I would like to tell them I was proud to be a part of that era, that I adored them, was always in front of the TV on Sunday night to watch the ‘Ed Sullivan Show’ when they were on, that I too screamed when they were on stage, that my Dad hated them and wanted them to take their long hair and go back to England :) and that I today still listen to their music.” - Debbie Downing

• “1. Jesus, just to be in His presence and ask him endless questions. 2. My Grandmother who died 39 years ago because I miss her. 3. Mister Rogers

because I grew up watching him and I hear he was a wonderful man.” - Charlene Woodruff

• “Albert Einstein - He’s sexy smart - He wore and bought the same kinds of clothes just so that he wouldn’t have to think about what to wear every day. Brad Pitt - Not only is he gorgeous, I am touched by his humanitarian efforts. Pink - I think she is down to earth with a great sense of humor. Her songs rock me!” - Nancy Barth

• “Steve Jobs and Bill Gates because they have changed how we go about our everyday life. Computers have had the greatest impact on the 20th and 21st centuries. My mom - she passed away when I was 5 and I have so many things I never had the opportunity to talk to her about.” - Penny Williams

• “Kurt Vonnegut, Ernest Hemingway and Suzanne Collins. I’ve enjoyed the works of all three authors and would love to pick their brains about the creative process.” - Jill Bond

• “Jesus Christ just to have the opportunity to hear his teachings and ask about the future of mankind during these times of turmoil. Abraham Lincoln. Our greatest president to discuss being the nation’s leader during the Civil War, how would he have rebuilt the south after the war and to hear his homespun stories. Ernie Pyle to learn from him that unique ability to

grasp the human emotions behind every story.” - Ken de la Bastide

• “I’d have to go with three of my favorite writers and thinkers: Bill Hicks, Hunter S. Thompson and Christopher Hitchens. This obviously could not take place in a smoke-free venue.” - Rob Burgess

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